

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1-7 and 12-15 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an electrophotographic image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a developer accommodating portion ~~for accommodating~~ configured to accommodate a developer;

a developer supply port ~~for supplying~~ configured and positioned to supply the developer to developing means for developing an electrostatic latent image formed on an electrophotographic photosensitive member;

a removable sealing tape ~~for sealing~~ configured and positioned to seal said developer supply port;

a covering member which is capable of ~~taking~~ assuming an opening position ~~for~~ for opening said developer supply port and a closing position for closing said developer supply port and to which one longitudinal end of said sealing tape is fixed, wherein said covering member is effective to cover said sealing tape sealing said developer supply port when it said covering member is at the closing position; and

a cartridge locking portion ~~for locking~~ configured and positioned to lock said covering member when said covering member is at the closing position;

wherein when said cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus, locking between said cartridge locking portion and said covering member is released by engagement between said covering member and the main assembly of the apparatus, and said covering

member moves from said closing position to said opening position, and said sealing tape is removed from said developer supply port to open said developer supply port.

2. (Currently Amended) A cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said covering member includes a cover side locking portion ~~for locking with~~ configured and positioned to lock said cartridge locking portion.

3. (Currently Amended) A cartridge according to Claim 2, wherein said cover side locking portion is locked with a guide portion provided in said cartridge to guide movement of said covering member between the closing position and ~~[[t]]~~ the opening position.

4. (Currently Amended) A cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said cartridge locking portion ~~includes~~, includes:

a first inclined surface inclined in a direction of permitting movement of said covering member from ~~[[t]]~~ the closing position to the opening position, said first inclined surface being effective to release locking between said cartridge locking portion and said covering member when covering member moves from ~~[[t]]~~ the closing position to the opening position; and

a second inclined surface inclined in a direction of permitting movement of said covering member from the opening position to the closing position, wherein said second inclined surface is effective to release locking between said cartridge locking portion and said covering member when said covering member moves from ~~[[t]]~~ the opening position to the closing position.

5. (Currently Amended) A cartridge according to Claim 2, wherein said cover side locking portion ~~includes~~, includes:

a first inclined surface inclined in a direction of permitting movement of said covering member from the closing position to the opening position, wherein said first inclined surface is effective to release locking between said cartridge locking portion and said cover side locking portion when said covering member moves from the closing position to the opening position; and

a second inclined surface inclined in a direction of permitting movement of said covering member from the opening position to the closing position, wherein said second inclined surface is effective to release locking between said cartridge locking portion and said cover side locking portion when said covering member moves from the opening position to the closing position.

6. (Currently Amended) A cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said covering member includes a portion to be urged by a projection provided in ~~[[t]]~~ the main assembly of the apparatus when said cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus.

7. (Currently Amended) A cartridge according to Claim 6, wherein said cartridge locking portion is disposed substantially on an extension line extending in a direction of urging of ~~the~~ said portion to be urged by ~~said~~ the projection.

8. (Original) A cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein locking between said cartridge locking portion and said covering member is released by elastic deformation of said covering

member when locking between said cartridge locking portion and said covering member is released.

9. (Original) A cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein locking between said cartridge locking portion and said covering member is released by elastic deformation of said cartridge locking portion when locking between said cartridge locking portion and said covering member is released.

10. (Original) A cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said cartridge locking portion is provided at each of a plurality of positions.

11. (Original) A cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein a force applied to said covering member to release locking between said cartridge locking portion and said covering member is 29.4N - 58.8N.

12. (Currently Amended) An electrophotographic image forming apparatus for forming an image on a recording material, to which a cartridge is detachably mountable, said apparatus comprising:

(i) a mounting means for detachably mounting a device configured and positioned to detachably mount the cartridge, which includes a developer accommodating portion ~~for accommodating~~ configured and positioned to accommodate a developer; a developer supply port ~~for supplying~~ configured and positioned to supply the developer to developing means for

developing an electrostatic latent image formed on an electrophotographic photosensitive member; a removable sealing tape ~~for sealing said~~ configured and positioned to seal the developer supply port; a covering member which is capable of ~~taking~~ assuming an opening position ~~for~~ for opening said the developer supply port and a closing position for closing ~~said the~~ developer supply port and to which one longitudinal end of ~~said the~~ sealing tape is fixed, said the covering member ~~is being~~ effective to cover said the sealing tape sealing ~~said the~~ developer supply port when it is at the closing position; and a cartridge locking portion ~~for locking said~~ configured and positioned to lock the covering member at the closing position; and

(ii) a feeding means for feeding device configured and positioned to feed the recording material,

wherein when ~~said the~~ cartridge is mounted to the a main assembly of the said apparatus, locking between ~~said the~~ cartridge locking portion and said the covering member is released by engagement between ~~said the~~ covering member and the main assembly of the said apparatus, and ~~said the~~ covering member moves from said the closing position to ~~said the~~ opening position, and ~~said the~~ sealing tape is removed from said the developer supply port to open ~~said the~~ developer supply port.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 12, further comprising a projection ~~for urging~~ configured and positioned to urge a portion to be urged provided in ~~said the~~ covering member when ~~said the~~ cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the said apparatus.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 12, further comprising a releasing portion ~~for releasing~~ configured and positioned to release locking with ~~said the~~ cartridge locking portion by elastic deformation of ~~said the~~ covering member when ~~said the~~ cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of ~~the~~ said apparatus.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein said projection urges ~~[[a]]~~ the portion to be urged provided in ~~said the~~ covering member at a position adjacent ~~said cover side locking portion locked with said the~~ cartridge locking portion.